

H. Res. 89

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

March 12, 1997.

Whereas the President has observed on numerous occasions that a constitutional amendment is not necessary to balance the budget, observing in his State of the Union address that “* * * we don’t need a constitutional amendment, we need action.”;

Whereas the President has also repeatedly agreed, most recently on January 28, 1997, to balance the budget by fiscal year 2002 based on the estimates of the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office; and

Whereas the Congressional Budget Office has officially estimated that the President’s budget would increase the deficit by \$24 billion in fiscal year 1998 and result in a deficit of at least \$69 billion in fiscal year 2002: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That (a) the House of Representatives re-
2 quests the President to submit to the House, not later
3 than April 7, 1997, a detailed plan to achieve a balanced
4 budget by fiscal year 2002 for the United States, as esti-
5 mated by the Congressional Budget Office, that—

6 (1) uses the most recent economic and technical
7 assumptions of the Congressional Budget Office;

1 (2) reduces the deficit through programmatic
2 reforms rather than alternative budgetary proce-
3 dures such as automatic spending cuts and the
4 sunseting of tax cuts;

5 (3) realizes a significant proportion of its total
6 savings in the first three years; and

7 (4) offers sufficient Medicare reforms to fore-
8 stall the imminent bankruptcy of the Medicare trust
9 funds for a substantial period.

10 (b) The House of Representatives shall consider a
11 budget plan to achieve a balanced budget by fiscal year
12 2002 for the United States that is in compliance with
13 paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (a).

Attest:

Clerk.